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COMPLIANCE WITH ARMS LIMITATION AND DISARMAMENT OBLIGATIONS

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay: draft resolution

Compliance with arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/60 of 12 December 1995 and other relevant resolutions on the question,

Recognizing the abiding concern of all Member States for maintaining respect for rights and obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law,

Convinced that observance of the Charter of the United Nations, relevant treaties and other sources of international law is essential for the strengthening of international security,

Mindful, in particular, of the fundamental importance of full implementation and strict observance of agreements and other obligations on arms

limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament by States parties if individual nations and the international community are to derive enhanced security from them,

Stressing that any violation of such agreements and other obligations by States parties not only adversely affects the security of States parties but can also create security risks for other States relying on the constraints and commitments stipulated in those agreements and other obligations,

Stressing also that any weakening of confidence in such agreements and other obligations diminishes their contribution to global or regional stability and to further disarmament, non-proliferation and arms limitation efforts and undermines the credibility and effectiveness of the international legal system,

Recognizing, in this context, that full compliance by States parties with all provisions of existing agreements and the resolving of compliance concerns effectively by means consistent with such agreements and international law can, inter alia, facilitate the conclusion of additional arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and thereby contribute to better relations among States and the strengthening of world peace and security,

Believing that compliance with all provisions of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements by States parties is a matter of interest and concern to all members of the international community, and noting the role that the United Nations has played and should continue to play in that regard,

Welcoming the contribution to international peace and regional security that full compliance by States parties with verification provisions of arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements provides,

Also welcoming the universal recognition of the critical importance of the question of compliance and verification of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and other obligations,

1. Urges all States parties to arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements to implement and comply with the entirety of all provisions of such agreements;

2. Calls upon all Member States to give serious consideration to the implications that non-compliance by States parties with any provisions of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements has for international security and stability, as well as for the prospects for progress in the field of disarmament;

3. Also calls upon all Member States to support efforts aimed at the resolution of compliance questions by means consistent with such agreements and international law, with a view to encouraging strict observance by all States parties of the provisions of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and to maintaining or restoring the integrity of such agreements;

4. Welcomes the role that the United Nations has played in restoring the integrity of, and fostering negotiations on, certain arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and in the removal of threats to peace;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance that may be necessary in restoring and protecting the integrity of arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements;

6. Encourages efforts by all States parties to develop additional cooperative measures, as appropriate, that can increase confidence in compliance with existing arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements and reduce the possibility of misinterpretation and misunderstanding;

7. Notes the contribution that verification experiments and research can make and already have made in confirming and improving verification procedures for arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements under study or negotiation, thereby providing an opportunity, from the time that such agreements enter into force, for enhancing confidence in the effectiveness of verification procedures as a basis for determining compliance;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of is fifty-fourth session an item entitled "Compliance with arms limitation, non-proliferation and disarmament agreements".